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Newsletter

June 2000

Volume 49 Number 3

Administrator's Note

Now that a relatively mild winter is behind us, we can look forward to warming weather and the beauty of early summer. The mild winter may catch up to us with drought concerns and a potential dry fire season. This is part of the annual cycle and is to be expected. I won't , however, predict this coming fire season until next December.

What is new this year, are the U.S. Department of Justice grants for terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. We will be working with the Montana Department of Justice and the Public Health and Human Services to develop a three year strategic plan. Local governments will be asked for input through their Local or Tribal Emergency Planning Committees (SERCS & TERCS). The goals are to provide better protection for first responders and improve the collective capabilities of Montana in the event of a terrorist incident. No easy answers here.

Several national issues are being watched closely. They include potential amendments to the Stafford act adding a pre-disaster mitigation program and language ensuring that private nonprofit irrigation entities remain eligible for public assistance. Additionally, a revised policy for Fire Suppression Declarations may be issued this summer.

Jim Greene
DES Administrator

Charlie Comer, Lincoln County Office of Emergency Management — Charlie receives an A.C.E. Award from the State Disaster and Emergency Services Division for his outstanding efforts in Lincoln County. Congratulations, Charlie and thank you for a job well done!

Summer Edition

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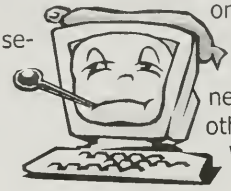
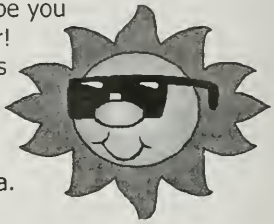
Editor Notes

You may have noticed this edition of the newsletter is a little late. (And if you didn't notice...maybe I shouldn't have mentioned it!) Oh well, the secret is out. The problem? Computers! The Love Bug shut our system down for a few days, (precautionary measures) and shortly after that I experienced a severe crash. Not being able to access my files really slowed progress....Okay, to be honest, it shut me down completely. I am *much* too dependant on my computer. I will try to alter my future behavior but in the mean time I have learned some tough lessons. **Backup, backup, backup**!



That about covers it, except for the most important thing of all. Make sure you have exceptional computer experts on hand to help you out. Thank you Homer and Carl. You saved a great newsletter and a whole lot of other important files for me. We are very fortunate to have you both.

Despite all that, I hope you have a great summer! Enjoy the longer days and take advantage of the many wonderful resources we have here in Montana.

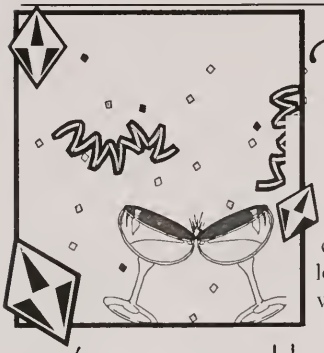


Until Next Time!
Monique T. Lay
Newsletter Editor

P.S.

I truly want to thank all those who contribute to this newsletter. Without your help, expertise, and willingness to submit articles and information (I know it takes time), we would have little to share with the recipients of our publication. Thank you!!

Thank you to the following for contributing to this newsletter: Jim Greene, Marlys Cain, Ken Mielke—NWS, D. C. Haas—DNRC, Gary Gleason—FEMA, Bill Thomas, Fred Naeher, Lorrie Leighton-Boster, Floyd Shoemaker, Ph.D.—FEMA, Chris Floyd—ARC, Tootie Marks, Lynne Pizzini—ISD, Homer Young, Pat McKelvey, Wilma Puich, Dave Maser, Fred Cowie, Steve Knecht, Wilma Puich, and Dan McGowan.



Wishing you well

In your retirement

Marlys Cain has recently retired. She came to work for Disaster and Emergency Services in 1979 and, with her impeccable work ethic and unmatched skills, has devoted herself to serving the State of Montana. If you think a lot can happen in 21 years, you are right! She has seen it all and we will miss her.

Enjoy a well-deserved retirement!

Best wishes frome everyone at DES, we'll miss you.

You are the epitome of strength and independence. Thank you for your mentoring.

-Monique

Marlys: You're my heroine. If all of us had your grit and efficiency, life would sure be a lot more interesting. I can't begin to thank you for all the help you've been over the years -- and not just for the reminders to send in mileage reports and for all the address labels you've typed. I'll sure miss you sitting in the back of the EOC during meetings, looking attractive as usual, grinning and doing the dreaded eye-roll. One thing you've definitely got to work on though, is speaking your mind. Thanks, and all the best as you pull the plug on DES.

-Bill Thomas

Marlys: I'm afraid that most of us probably won't realize the significance of your retirement, like many events in our lives, until we first discover just how much we've taken you for granted. I know that I'll definitely miss having someone to keep me "on the straight and narrow". Best wishes.

-Dave Maser

Marlys: To my good friend on and off the job I wish you the best. I'll miss your professionalism on the job but hope we keep the un-professional off the job friendship. You truly are a roll model for whomever takes your job.

-Wilma Puich

Marlys: Thanks for your welcoming smile and for making sure I got all my messages. I'll miss you. Peace.

-Fred Cowie

Thanks for all the help you've given me during my short tenure with the Division and for always being a friend.

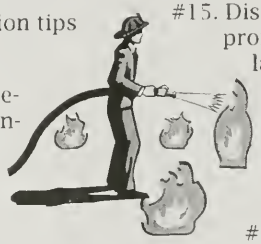
-Steve Knecht

Only You...

Fire Prevention Tips for your Safety

Here are several fire prevention tips from **www.firewise.org**

The Firewise site contains useful information on fire prevention and fire planning.



1. Keep a clearing of at least 30 feet around your house for fire fighting equipment.

#2. Space the trees you plant carefully.

#3. Remove "ladder fuels". They link the grasses and the tree tops.

#4. Create "fuelbreak" - - - driveways, gravel walkways, or lawns.

#5. Maintain your irrigation system regularly.

#6. Prune tree limbs so the lowest is between 6' - 10' from the ground.

#7. Remove leaf clutter from your roof and yard.

#8. Mow regularly.

#9. Remove dead or overhanging branches.

#10. Store firewood away from your house.

#11. Refuel garden equipment carefully.

#12. Maintain garden equipment regularly.

#13. If you smoke, use your ashtray.

#14. Store and use flammable liquids properly.

#15. Dispose of cuttings and debris promptly, according to local regulations.

#16. Observe local regulations regarding vegetative clearances and fire safety equipment requirements.

#17. Check your generator and/or hose to be sure it is in good repair.

#18. Don't keep combustible materials under decks or elevated porches.

#19. Make trellises of non-flammable metal.

#20. Have at least two ground-level doors as safety exits.

#21. Keep at least two means of escape (either a door/window) in each room.

#22. Mark your driveway and access roads clearly.

#23. Keep ample turnaround space near your house for fire equipment.

#24. Prevent sparks from entering your house by covering vents with wire mesh no larger than 1/8".

#25. When possible, use construction materials that are fire-resistant or non-combustible.

Submitted by:
D.C. Haas
DNRC—Forestry

Changes in Fire Weather Forecasting & Warning System

The National Weather Service has recently implemented a series of changes in fire weather forecasting throughout the State of Montana. In an attempt to provide more accurate and geographically specific information, the NWS has increased the number of fire weather forecast zones within Montana from 16 to 30. Additionally, NWS offices in Billings, Missoula, and Great Falls will now provide local fire weather forecasts. (Previously, fire weather forecasts were issued only from Billings and Missoula.)

These changes, while generally expected to improve the quality and timeliness of these services, have resulted in some temporary problems in the procedures used for disseminating fire weather watches and warnings to the appropriate local government 24-hour warning points.

NAWAS (National Warning System) will continue to be the primary warning system for Montana fire weather watches and warnings. The National Weather Service will continue to activate the NAWAS system whenever a "**RED FLAG WARNING**" is issued.

However, use of the CJIN system, a computer-based information system (used in conjunction with NAWAS) has temporarily been discontinued. The MT-DES Duty Officer will now make telephone notifications of "**RED FLAG WARNINGS**" to the appropriate 24-hour warning points until the CJIN computers can be re-programmed to accommodate the new Fire Weather Forecast Zones.

General weather information and specific information regarding a "Red Flag Warning" may be obtained by calling the National Weather Service office that issued the "Red Flag Warning:" In addition, these offices will also have information regarding "Fire Weather Watches":

NWS Billings: (406) 652-1916
NWS Great Falls: (406) 453-2081
NWS Missoula: (406) 329-4715

The complete text of any "RED FLAG WARNING" issued by the NWS may be found at the following internet address:

http://www.boi.noaa.gov/firewx.htm

Since the numbers associated with many of the Fire Weather Forecast Zones have changed, all Montana 24-hour warning points are encouraged to check the following web site to determine in which Zone(s) your jurisdiction is located:

http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/Missoula/fwx1.gif

Written by:
Dave Maser
Deputy Response Coordinator

Project Impact Community Increases Safety with Nature Project

LIBBY, MONTANA - As individuals and communities across the country prepare to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Earth Day, some in Lincoln County, Montana are feeling particularly proud of their recent work along Parmenter Creek drainage.

The meandering creek has been prone to flooding events resulting in reduced wetland areas and restricted stream-flow capacity. Utilizing funds from various federal sources, the city of Libby built a setback levee to protect property from perennial flooding, but also took things a step further by using area schools to create an urban/wild land interface.

Through this initiative, Libby High School created a college-credit class wherein students constructed a pathway and footbridge along the top of the levee, while Libby Middle School created a summer program to study wildlife habitat along the creek and built birdhouses to attract wildlife back to the area. This spring students will place interpretive signs along the pathway to explain the mitigation program as well as the natural habitat.

"Our goal at FEMA is to help individuals and communities take steps that reduce disaster risks, thereby saving lives and reducing disaster-related losses," noted Rick Weiland, regional director for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). "But communities are often presented with opportunities that increase both human safety and wildlife habitat. We applaud Libby for their initiative on this project. It is an excellent marriage of emergency management principles and environmental sensitivity."

The project utilized funds from two FEMA programs, *Project Impact: Building Disaster Resistant Communities* and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Funding was also provided by the Community Development Block Grant program, which is administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

As a designated Project Impact community, Libby is part of a nationwide initiative to build disaster resistance. Through Project Impact, communities join together to build partnerships, assess their disaster risks, and take steps to help them withstand the forces of nature. Other Montana communities that have joined Project Impact are Lewis and Clark County and Yellowstone County.

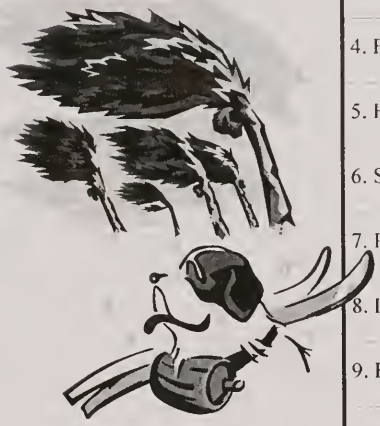
"The programs and projects communities undertake are as unique as the communities themselves," Weiland said. "This is not a government program, but a grassroots initiative that takes on a life of its own."

Project Impact: Building Disaster Resistant Communities is more than disaster preparedness, it is disaster prevention. Through this nationwide initiative, communities, businesses, and individuals are building safer and smarter to reduce disaster-related losses. For information on simple, low-cost ways to protect your home or business go to the FEMA Web site at www.fema.gov/mit. Additional information is also available through the Institute for Business and Home Safety at www.ibhs.org. For more information about Project Impact go to www.fema.gov/impact.

Submitted by:
Gary Gleason FEMA

It all adds up...

A recent issue of Ladies' Home Journal rated 200 cities on a variety of factors, including the vehemence of Mother Nature. Below are the places the magazine listed as the ten riskiest and ten safest cities, based on the likelihood of earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, dangerous hail, and wind.



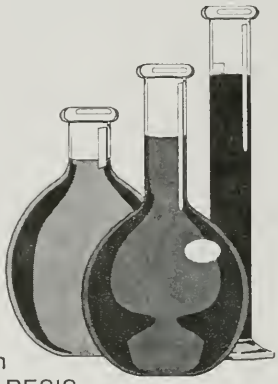
Ten Riskiest	Ten Safest
1. Dallas, Texas	1. Anchorage, Alaska
2. Mesquite, Texas	2. Honolulu, Hawaii
3. Garland, Texas	3. Spokane, Washington
4. Fort Lauderdale, Florida	4. Boise, Idaho
5. Hollywood, Florida	***5. Billings, Montana***
6. St. Pertersburg, Florida	6. El Paso, Texas
7. Pasadena, California	7. Sacramento, California
8. Irving, Texas	8. Eugene, Oregon
9. Hialeah, Florida	9. Modesto, California
10. Independence, Missouri	10. Burlington, Vermont

Florida's Mitigation Moment Newsletter

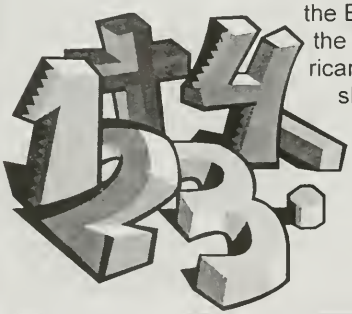
The following website will link you to Issue 1 of a new newsletter entitled "Florida's Mitigation Moment - An American Red Cross Disaster Mitigation/ Education Newsletter for Florida". The purpose of this newsletter is to share Disaster Mitigation and Community Disaster Education success stories, upcoming events, information and ideas. Visit the site at http://www.tallytown.com/redcross then link to the NEWS link for a copy of the newsletter.

Received by:
Chris Floyd, Disaster Services Director
Submitted by: Jim Greene, DES Administrator

Science/Math Class Mitigation



What do you get when you combine a leaf blower, construction paper, straws and tape? High School Science or Math students building Hurricane Proof Houses! The Disaster Services Office of the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross has developed a High School Science/Math Class Mitigation Activity that stresses the need to build DISASTER RESISTANT NEIGHBORHOODS. For additional information on this activity please visit our web site at http://www.tallytown.com/redcross then using the Building a Hurricane Proof House link located in the blue left-hand border link to the Building a Hurricane Proof House narrative, photos and a work sheet for the activity in PDF format.



Submitted by: Chris Floyd
Disaster Services Director
Capital Area Chapter
American Red Cross

We did not receive a nomination for an ACE Award for this edition of our newsletter. I would like recognize the counties for their efforts so please take the time to share your accomplishments with us. This is a great opportunity to generate ideas, promote your successes, and recognize the many great things you do every day.

The ACE Award was developed to highlight efforts made by counties to improve emergency management within their jurisdictions. Any contribution made to enhancing any phase within the cycle of emergency management qualifies for a nomination. If you know someone, or a group of individuals, who are providing outstanding services and making extraordinary efforts within their counties, let us know. If you feel you are doing exceptional work, nominate yourself. We would be honored to recognize your hard work and want to share ideas and accomplishments with other counties.

EXPLOSION

On March 16th, an explosion occurred in Fairview, Montana causing over one million dollars in damage to homes and businesses. The Mayor of Fairview had pulled his wife's pickup into his electrical contracting garage to fix a leak in the propane system on the vehicle. He decided to go in for lunch and while in his trailer, the garage exploded. Buildings suffered various degrees of damage. A total of ten homes were destroyed; six of these were uninsured. Debris from the blast was found nine blocks away on the high school football field. The incident did receive a national disaster number from the American Red Cross and they were busy taking care of residents' immediate needs.

A town meeting was held the very next week in the high school cafeteria and attended by over 100 people. DES facilitated the meeting and was supported by Richland County DES and representatives of the State Auditor's Office. The current situation status was explained to the residents with regard to immediate and future program assistance. The residents were also informed about the issues they would need to deal with regarding recovery. The meeting was also instrumental for obtaining damage information from the residents using the Montana Individual Assistance questionnaire.

Questionnaire information validated that there was not enough damage for a Presidential Declaration or a Small Business Administration only declaration. The American Red Cross proceeded to address all individuals' short-term needs and the mental health component continues to meet with families.

Long-term recovery possibilities were impacted by the fact that the Montana – North Dakota border separates the town. A need was identified to establish a long-term recovery plan. On May 9th, a meeting was held in Fairview to identify the possible program assistance available from volunteer, state and federal agencies. 26 individuals representing various programs attended the meeting. An interim recovery plan was developed which involved the Salvation Army conducting casework with the families to further develop our information base with relation to program possibilities. After the case work is complete, a core group will meet again in Fairview to try and develop the final long-term plan and match available assistance with family needs. It is anticipated that the entire process will be completed sometime next spring depending on the options that are utilized.

Written by:
Dan McGowan
Planning Bureau Chief

Youth Violence

April 20th marked the one-year anniversary of the tragic event at Columbine High School. As a nation, we are compelled to revisit the tough issues at the forefront of childhood and adolescence. And we are challenged to explain this unfortunate incident to our children, who will ask, "Could this happen at my school? Am I safe? What should I do if someone brings a gun to school?" While daunting, these questions present an opportunity for parents to establish open, honest communication with their kids about violence. We urge parents to utilize such incidents in a positive way, to create an ongoing dialogue with their kids about fears of bullying, crime and personal safety.

☒ Download the "Talking With Kids About Violence" tips at: http://www.talkingwithkids.org/violence.html

☒ Or call 1-800-CHILD-44 for a FREE hard copy of the booklet (available in English and Spanish).

The National Campaign Against Youth Violence: The National Campaign Against Youth Violence is a new, national response to the epidemic rates of youth violence in America. With the support of the White House, the campaign is an unprecedented partnership dedicated to changing the way Americans think about and address violence.

☒ Visit them at: **http://www.noviolence.net**

Million Mom March - Mothers' Day 2000: Million Mom March Mothers' Day 2000 is dedicated to the mission of educating children and the USA about the life-threatening danger of guns. From all walks of life - mothers, grandmothers, stepmothers, godmothers, foster mothers, future mothers, and all others willing to be "honorary mothers" in this crusade. Their goal is to educate and mobilize the mothers of America to this cause. Their commitment as voting citizens is to realize their goals by Mothers' Day, 2000.

☒ For nation-wide location information visit them at: **http://www.millionmommarch.com/html/localinfo.html**

Working Against Violence Everywhere: WAVE, or Working Against Violence Everywhere, is a national nonviolence campaign designed to engage youth in their mission to build safer schools and stronger communities.

☒ Visit them at: **http://www.waveamerica.com**

Center For The Prevention of School Violence: Center For The Prevention of School Violence is a public awareness campaign in North Carolina to keep the nation informed about all aspects of the problem of school violence as well as what can be done to solve it. The Center's overall mission is getting violence out of schools.

☒ Visit them at: **http://www.nesu.edu/cpsv**

CDC - Youth Violence and Suicide Prevention: Preventing Violence and Suicide Enhancing Futures is a service of the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention and offers useful information on what can be done to end youth violence.

☒ Visit them at: **http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/dvp/yvpt/canido.htm**

Handgun Control: Handgun Control is a nonprofit organization working to reduce kids' access to guns by creating "common sense" gun laws and closing loopholes in existing laws.

☒ Visit them at: http://www.handguncontrol.org

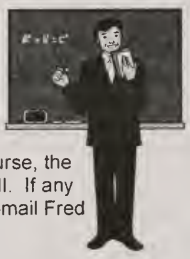
About Talking With Kids and The Partners: "Talking with Kids About Tough Issues" is a national public service campaign designed to alert parents and other caring adults to the importance of talking with children early and often about some of today's most difficult issues. The campaign offers FREE booklets (available in English and Spanish) with common sense help for parents discussing sex and sexuality, AIDS, drugs and alcohol, and violence with their child in an age appropriate way. The parent booklet was developed with input from a wide variety of experts including developmental and child psychologists and is available by calling 1-800-CHILD-44.

☒ Talking With Kids is a partnership between Children Now and the Kaiser Family Foundation. Visit our award winning Web site at **http://www.talkingwithkids.org**.

(Continued on page 11)

ch..ch..ch..changes

IEMC positions will no longer be allocated to each of the 10 Regions to be divided among the States. The IEMC National Open Enrollment System will provide two open enrollment periods for resident IEMC training at EMI and MT. Weather. All IEMC positions will be open to all potential students from all areas or Regions of the country. The two national enrollment periods for FY 2001 will be July 1,2000 to August 31, 2000, or a two-month period. Applications should be submitted for positions in IEMCS scheduled in the first and second quarters of FY 2001. The second National Open Enrollment Period for FY 2001 will be from December 1, 2000 to January 31, 2001 for positions in IEMCS scheduled in the third and fourth quarters. These enrollment periods can be accessed on the web at www.fema.gov/emi/iemc01.htm, the IEMC home page. Course vacancies by position will be listed on this web page after each national open enrollment period. All 75-5 applications must be submitted through the States and FEMA Regions for review and signature. You should review the web page carefully and encourage emergency managers and first responders of your State to enroll in this flagship course, the best training offered by EMI. If any questions, please call or e-mail Fred Naeher at 841-3968 or fnaeher@state.mt.us

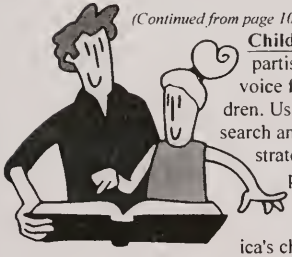


Submitted by:
Fred Naeher
Training Manager

Do not look where you fell,
But where you slipped

- African Proverb

(Continued from page 10)



Children Now is a non-partisan, independent voice for America's children. Using innovative research and communications strategies, Children Now promotes pioneering solutions to problems facing America's children. Recognized nationally for its policy expertise, up-to-date information about the status of children, and leading work with the media, Children Now focuses particular attention on the needs of children who are poor or at risk while working to improve conditions for all children by making them a top priority across the nation. Children Now is financed through foundation grants, individual donations, and support from the corporate community.

☒ Visit the Children Now Web site at **http://www.childrennow.org** (RECENTLY REDESIGNED)

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation is a non-profit, independent, national health care philanthropy, not associated with Kaiser Permanente and Kaiser Industries. Established in 1948, the Foundation makes approximately $40 million in philanthropic expenditures each year, emphasizing efforts to improve the health and life chances of the disadvantaged. The Foundation serves as an independent, non-partisan source of facts and analysis for policymakers, journalists, and the general public.

Visit the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation Web site at **http://www.kff.org**

Received via E-mail
Submitted by:
Tootie Marks, DES
Fergus & Phillips County

Preserving Your Pretties

Restoring Flood-Damaged Heirlooms

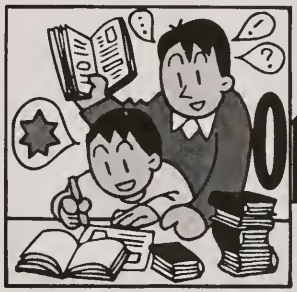
After flood events, people return to homes and businesses that are filled with water and mud damage. Many of the damaged items are heirlooms or personal treasures that are difficult, if not impossible to replace. The following is a list of recommendations to help you preserve your damaged items:

- Wear plastic or rubber gloves for your own protection. If an item is still wet, rinse with clear, clean water. Use soft brushes to clean off dry silt, dirt and debris. Dry with a clean, soft cloth.
- Air-dry items indoors, if possible. Outside conditions may dry some materials too quickly, causing splits, warping, and buckling. Daylight and heat are particularly damaging to paper-based materials.
- The best way to minimize mold growth is to reduce relative humidity. Increase airflow using fans, open windows, air conditioners and de-humidifiers.
- Remove heavy deposits of mold growth from walls, baseboards, floors and other household surfaces with commercially available disinfectants.
- If objects are broken or falling apart, place broken pieces, bits of veneer, and detached parts in clearly labeled, open containers. Do not attempt to repair items until they are completely dry. You may want to consult with a conservator.
- Documents, books, photographs and works of art on paper may be extremely fragile when wet; use caution when handling. Free the edges of prints and paper objects in mats and frames. Air-dry these items. Rinse mud off wet photographs with clear water, but do not touch surfaces. Wet books and papers can be air dried or kept in a refrigerator or freezer until they can be treated by a professional conservator.

- Textiles and leather are severely affected by exposure to water and should be allowed to air-dry. Support shaped objects. Dry clean or launder textiles and carpets as needed.
- Remove wet paintings from the frame, but not the stretcher. Air-dry, face up and away from direct light.
- Furniture finishes and painting surfaces may develop a white haze or bloom from contact with water and high relative humidity. These problems do not require immediate attention; consult a professional conservator for treatment.
- Rinse metal objects that were exposed to flood waters, mud, or silt with clear water and dry immediately with a clean soft cloth. Allow heavy mud deposits on large metal objects to dry. Caked mud may be removed at a later date. Consult a professional conservator for further treatment.

From Solinet, after the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works.

Training Opportunity



All State Directors recently received a letter from Kay Goss inviting the states to nominate participants for the Community and Family Preparedness Conference 2000, at EMI August 19-20. This year's conference will focus upon children and disaster, safe schools, and effective outreach to minority communities. This is the first time that the States and Regions have been invited to nominate participants to conference organizers; however, admission to the conference is by invitation only. The States are invited to help identify appropriate people with local, state, regional and national experience to help achieve conference objectives, which include:

- Getting the disaster message into local school systems;
- Identifying emergency management curriculum needs;
- Focusing attention on school safety;
- Broadening and extending emergency management partnerships;
- Identifying and working with partners to utilize recognized communication channels in minority communities.

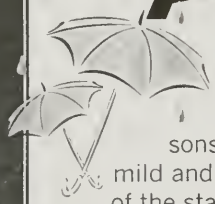
Received by:
Floyd Shoemaker, Ph.D.
Regional Training Manager

If you are interested or know someone who is, fill out a FEMA Form 75-5 (Application to EMI) and send it to Fred Naeher. If you have any questions, please call 841-3968 or E-mail a message to fnaeher@state.mt.us.

Submitted by:
Fred Naeher
Training Manager

> New knowledge is of little value if it doesn't change us, make us better individuals, and help us to be more productive, happy, and useful.
>
> -Hyrum W. Smith

Past Weather



Montana's last three winter seasons can be characterized as mild and dry over most portions of the state. The 1997-98 winter was dominated by the strongest El Nino episode in 50 years. El Nino winters are quite predictable in Montana; in almost every case, temperatures are above normal and precipitation below normal, both in the lower levels and in the mountains. That certainly was the case during the 1997-98 winter.

By the summer of 1998, El Nino's counterpart, La Nina, began to take hold in the Pacific Ocean. La Nina episodes are marked by colder than normal ocean surface temperatures near the equator, extending across the Pacific. Delving into the historical effects of La Nina on Montana's winter weather we found that, on average, the period of December through February was generally colder than normal, especially east of the Continental Divide (divide) and snowier than normal, especially over the higher elevations west of the divide. However, past history also revealed that there were wide variations in the Montana winters during La Nina episodes. Some winters were warmer than normal and some less snowy than normal. So our confidence with regard to the 1998-99 winter was much lower than if we had an El Nino episode in progress.

As it turned out, some portions of Montana experienced a typical La Nina winter, while other areas did not. West of the divide, many of the high elevation areas received precipitation as much as 20 to 40 percent above normal. That's typical during a La Nina winter. East of the divide, precipitation averaged near or below normal, but temperatures averaged well above normal. That is not typical.

Climate experts pointed to the lingering effects of El Nino in the mid latitudes and northern Pacific, which kept temperatures in these waters a little warmer than normal, and helped maintain a strong west-east jet stream into the Pacific Northwest and Montana. This jet put a lot of snow into the higher mountains and generated frequent windy and mild conditions along the east slopes.

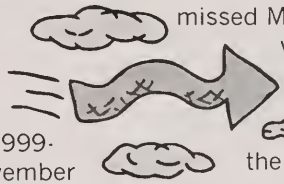
As we approached the 1999/2000 winter, a moderately strong La Nina continued in the equatorial Pacific and the lingering warmth in the waters of the mid latitudes and northern Pacific were long gone. The official winter forecast from the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center called for below normal temperatures east of the divide and above normal precipitation across the much of state for the upcoming winter - a more traditional Montana winter was forecast. However, the winter was again quite mild and dry.

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

What happened? The jet stream is a key component in most weather patterns. During the early part of the 1999-2000 winter season (late November through much of January), there was a very strong west to east jet stream across the eastern Pacific, extending from the Pacific Northwest to the Great Lakes. This brought ample snow to the mountains of western Montana, with snow packs at or above normal by January. East of the divide, this strong west to east flow generated a lot of windy days, mild temperatures and little precipitation. Arctic fronts never had a chance to get into the state; the cold air was carried well east through central Canada. In order to get the very cold arctic air into Montana, the jet stream needs to "buckle," such that a strong northerly branch steers the cold air down from the arctic region - it never happened. As it turned out, December 1999 was the warmest in Montana history (105 years) and November came in 3rd warmest.

As we moved into the latter stages of winter, the character of the jet stream changed again. The jet stream split over the eastern Pacific, with one branch tracking over northwest Canada and another which meandered well south of Montana. As a result, significant storms missed Montana. Additionally, winds decreased east of the divide and so did the snowfall over the western mountains. By the end of March, snow amounts in the higher western mountains fell below average for that time of the year. Temperatures remained mild east of the divide as we still did not have a strong northerly jet stream to drive the cold arctic air into the state.



The winter of 1999-2000 in a nutshell: Mild and dry - most winter storms missed the state and we experienced very few intrusions of frigid arctic air. The few arctic fronts which reached Montana were modified (warmer) by the time they reached the state and each episode was very short-lived. Again, this was due to the persistent west to east jet stream early in the winter and then the lack of a northerly jet stream during the last part of the winter.

So what is in store for the next few months? The National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center 30-day outlook for May calls for above normal temperatures and normal precipitation. The 90-day outlook (through July) calls for temperatures to continue above normal and for precipitation to be near normal.

Submitted by:
Ken Mielke
Great Falls Weather Service

What you can find on the Web

Natural Disaster IQ Quiz

To test your Disaster IQ, visit: www.ibhs.org—go to homeowners and select Natural Hazards Quiz. This site includes a more comprehensive version of the Natural Hazards IQ Quiz included on these two pages.

Floods are involved in what percentage of all natural disasters in the United States?

A. 30 percent

B. 50 percent

C. 70 percent

D. 90 percent

D. is the correct answer.

Another interesting web site:

http://www.esri.com/hazards

Features interactive hazard maps, the benefits of GIS, and the active partnership with FEMA.

Received by:
Bill Thomas
DES District I

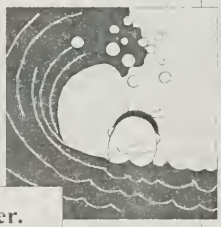
Tsunamis have been known to travel:

A. A few hundred feet

B. 100 miles

C. 1,000 miles

D. Across the Pacific



D. is the correct answer.

It takes two to three months for a drought to become established.

What was the worst 20th century earthquake in terms of loss of life?

A. The 1906 quake in San Francisco, estimated magnitude 7.7.

B. The 1976 Tangshan, China, quake, magnitude 7.4.

C. The 1985 Michoacān, Mexico quake, magnitude 8.1.

D. The 1988 quake in Armenia, magnitude 6.8

B. is the correct answer with over 250,00 lives lost.

Here is an interesting web site which addresses wildfire mitigation: **www.ibhs.org/documents/pdf/wildfire/pdf**

Also, the IBHS has produced "***Open for Business: A Disaster Planning Toolkit for the Small Business Owner***," which contains the contingency/ business recovery elements that every small business needs. The general web site for Institute of Business and Home Safety is **www.ibhs.org.**

Received by:
F. Floyd Shoemaker, Ph.D.
Regional Training Manager

What is the most frequent time for hailstorms to occur?

A. Between 11:00 am and noon

B. Between 3:00 and 4:00 pm

C. Between 5:00 and 6:00 pm

D. Between 9:00 and 10:00 pm

B. is the correct answer.

What is the main reason that wildfires threaten more homes each year?

A. More wildfires are being started in neighborhoods.

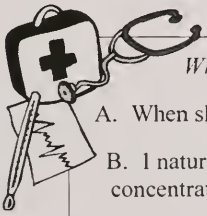
B. More homes are being built with wooden shingles instead of fire-retardant materials.

C. More people are building homes in woodland settings.

D. More homes are being built without smoke detectors.

C. is the right answer here.

Between 1993 and 1997, snowmobiling resulted in the highest number of avalanche deaths.



What causes radon to be produced?

A. When shale is exposed to air during building construction.

B. 1 naturally occurs in all soils, so it sometimes becomes concentrated in enclosed spaces.

C. When uranium present in the soil breaks down into radium (a solid) and radon (a gas).

D. When uranium in the soil comes into contact with concrete building foundations.

C. is the correct answer.

County Updates

Cascade County:

Cascade County:
Tom Stelling, Commissioner
Office Number: (406) 454-6815
Cell Number: (406) 899-5879

City of Great Falls:
Jim Hirose
Office Number: (406) 727-8070
Cell Number: (406) 788-0336

Granite County:

Thor Sichveland (pronounced sickland)
P.O. Box 424
Philipsburg, MT 59858
Office & Fax Number: (406) 859-3701

Yellowstone County:

Marvin Jochems
Office Phone: (406) 657-8423
Cell Number: (406) 698-7702

Summer HOLIDAYS!

June 14	Flag Day
June 18	Father's Day
June 20	First Day of Summer
July 4	Independence Day

Charlie Comer, Lincoln County Emergency Management Agency, will be leaving his position on June 1. Not to worry! His expertise will remain in Lincoln County as he has accepted a job with the Corp of Engineers working at the Libby Dam. Congratulations Charlie! Enjoy your new job, it sounds like a great opportunity.

Remember

The @mt.gov domain previously u
for our state email addresses expi
March 30, 2000. Please update yo
addresses to reflect the new doma

@state.mt.us

Please... Share this Newsletter with a friend.

During
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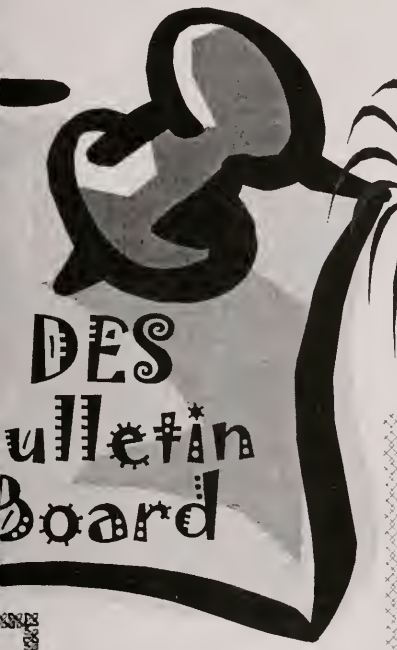
Office o
P.O. Box
Helena,

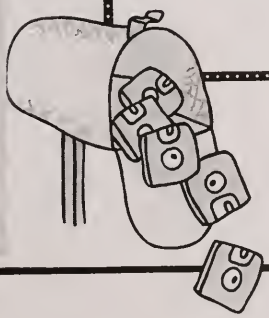
DES Bulletin Board



Royce Shipley has left Cascade County DES but hasn't ventured far from emergency management. He is now working for Malmstrom Air Force Base as a Disaster Preparedness Specialist, Readiness Flight Section. Congratulations Royce and Good luck with your new job!!

e-mail Updates:

Yellowstone County ... jkraft@co.yellowstone.mt.us



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Out & About

What's happening?! Emergency Management in Montana.

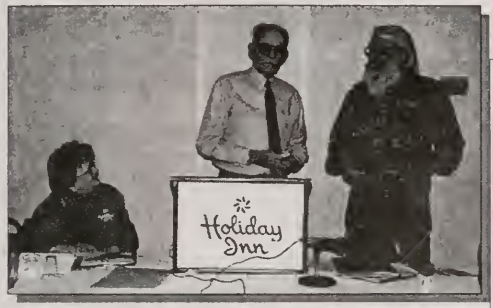
March 2000—Tribal Warrior Society of Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes performs flag ceremony at the Polson Hazmat Conference.

Governor's Conference 2000—Montana DES Association President, Butch Renders, presiding at the Governor's Conference luncheon. To his right, the Honorable Governor Marc Racicot.

Photographs Provided By: Bill Thomas

Governor's Conference 2000—Martha Smith, Sanders County DES.

Governor's Conference 2000—National Weather Service delegation.



Governor's Conference 2000—Wilma Puich, Butte/SilverBow County OEM, Mick Mills, Former Lincoln County Coordinator, and Butch Renders, Richland County DES.

Mick Receives a lifetime membership with the Montana DES Coordinators Association from President Butch Renders.

Photographs Provided By: Bill Thomas

March 2000—Missoula County Sheriff's Deputy and School Resource Officer Sgt. Joe McNeal hams it up at the "Win Against Violence" Workshop in Helena. It looks like Joe has lost the battle!

Governor's Conference 2000—Carol Hellyer, Garfield County DES and Carole Raymond, Rosebud County DES.

Visit Our DES Web Site at...
www.state.mt.us/dma/des

Out & About

Gov[illegible]or's Conferen[illegible]2000—Rita Windom, Lincoln County Commissioner.

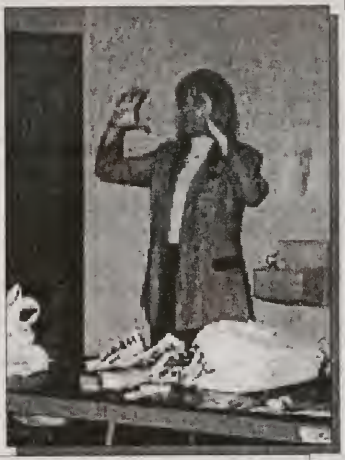
Governor's Conference 2000—Charlie Comer, Lincoln County Office of Emergency Management with his wife Terri.

Photographs Provided By: Bill Thomas

March 2000—The Tribal Warrior Society of the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes performs their opening ceremony at the Polson HazMat Conference.

Photographs Provided By: Bill Thomas

Congratulations!! — Charlie Comer, Lincoln County Office of Emergency Management receives his ACE Award in a ceremony held at the County Commissioner's Office. (Pictured left to right) Rita Windom, Lincoln County Commissioner; Marianne Roose, Lincoln County Commissioner; Charlie Comer, Lincoln County OEM; John Konzen, Lincoln County Commissioner; and Terri Comer.



Trout Creek Elementary School — Monique Lay explains the dynamics of the earth to the students at the Trout Creek Elementary School.

Photographs Provided By: Bill Thomas

Drop, Cover and Hold—Monique Lay, Earthquake Program Manager, teaches the students at Trout Creek Elementary School the proper procedures they should use to keep themselves safe during an earthquake.

Good Disaster Management

This is the the seventh in a series of articles summarized from "Ten Criteria for Evaluating the Management of Community Disasters" by E.L. Quarantelli, co-director of the Disaster Research Center of the University of Delaware.

Principle 6

Permit the proper exercise of decision making.

Four common problems are listed with a brief explanation.

1. **...loss of higher echelon personnel because of overwork.**

   Working too long causes exhaustion and inefficient decision making. Frequently, tired personnel do not pass on relevant knowledge and fail to record or pass on crucial information.

2. **...conflict over responsibility regarding new disaster tasks.**

   Sometimes no decision or poor decisions result when organizations argue over who should perform new disaster related tasks (e.g., burial of the dead), that is, tasks are not part of the everyday responsibility of an existing organization.

3. **...clashes over organizational responsibilities between established and emergent groups.**

   "Area security", for example, is considered a traditional local law enforcement function. Conflicts can arise if nonlocal law enforcement or military personnel move into a disaster area and also attempt to provide security. Likewise, outsider relief groups are sometimes viewed as intruders into the domain of local relief groups.

4. **...surfacing of organizational jurisdictional differences.**

   During non-crisis periods, vague or overlapping authority and responsibility can often be ignored; however, during disasters, unresolved jurisdictional issues often surface at the height of the emergency period.

Proper exercise of decision-making results in avoidance of the problems cited above, which in turn, is a measure of good disaster management. The goal should be effective decision making, not organizational control.

Submitted by:
Bill Thomas
DES District I Representative

For Fun

Finished files are the result of years of scientific study combined with the experience of years.

Now go back and count the F's in that sentence.

>>
> >
> >

>>
> >
> > See below...
> >
> >
> >

ANSWER:

There are six F's in the sentence. The average person finds three of them. If you found all six, nice job! There is no catch. Many people forget the "OF"'s. The human brain tends to compute them as V's and not F's.

Here are some actual label instructions found on consumer goods. You have to wonder what may have happened to prompt some of this stuff.

On a Sears hairdryer: *Do not use while sleeping.*

On a bag of Fritos: *You could be a winner! No purchase necessary. Details inside.* (The shoplifter special.)

On a bar of Dial soap: *Directions: Use like regular soap.*

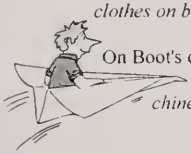
On a Swann frozen dinners: *Serving suggestion: Defrost.* (But it's just a suggestion.)

On Tesco's tiramisu dessert (printed on the bottom of box): *Do not turn upside-down.*

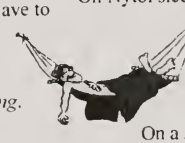
On Marks & Spencer bread pudding: *Product will be hot after heating.*

On packaging for a Rowenta iron: *Do not iron clothes on body.*

On Boot's children's cough medicine: *"Do not drive a car or operate machinery after taking this medication."*



On Nytol sleep aid: *Warning: May cause drowsiness.*



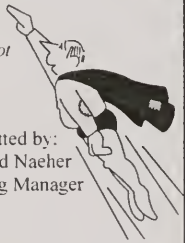
On most brands of Christmas lights: *"For indoor or outdoor use only."* (As opposed to what?)

On a Japanese food processor: *Not to be used for the other use.* (curious?)

On Sainsbury's peanuts: *"Warning: contains nuts."*

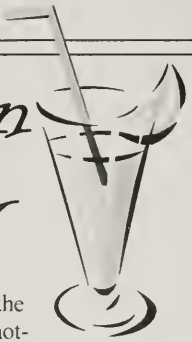
On an American Airlines packet of peanuts: *"Instructions: Open packet, eat nuts."*

On a child's Superman costume: *"Wearing of this garment does not enable you to fly."*



Received and Submitted by:
Fred Naeher
Training Manager

Water in an Emergency



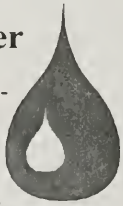
If a hurricane, winter storm or other disaster strikes your community, you might not have access to food, water and electricity for days, even weeks. We all know that water is a survival priority and by taking time now to store an emergency supply, you can provide for your entire family in a disaster situation.

You must have an ample supply of clean water - at least one gallon per person per day. You should store at minimum a two week supply for each member of your family. You will need this water for drinking, food preparation and hygiene. Store your water in thoroughly washed plastic, glass, fiberglass or enamel-lined metal containers. Never use a container that has held toxic substances. Plastic containers, such as soft drink bottles, are best. Seal water containers tightly, label them, and store in a cool, dark place. Rotate water every six months.

If for some reason disaster catches you without a stored supply of clean water, you can use the water in your pipes, hot-water tank, and ice cubes. As a last resort, you can use water in the reservoir tank of your toilet (not the bowl). To use the water in your pipes, let air into the plumbing by turning on the faucet in your house at the highest level. A small amount of water will trickle out. Then obtain water from the lowest faucet in the house. To use the water in your hot-water tank, be sure the electricity or gas is off, and open the drain at the bottom of the tank. Start the water flowing by turning off the water intake valve and turning on a hot-water faucet. Do not turn on the gas or electricity when the tank is empty.

You can find water outside your home from the following sources: rainwater; streams, rivers, and other moving bodies of water; ponds and lakes; and natural springs. This water must be purified before drinking it. Avoid water with floating material, an odor or dark color. Use saltwater only if you distill it first. You should not drink flood water.

How to Purify Water

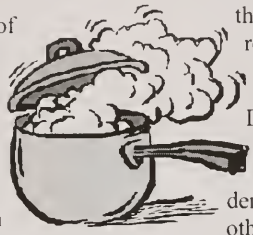


You should purify all water of uncertain purity before using it for drinking, food preparation or hygiene. There are many ways to purify water. None is perfect. Often the best solution is a combination of methods. Boiling and disinfecting are two methods which will kill most microbes in water. Distillation is a more thorough method as it removes the microbes that resist boiling and disinfecting. It also removes heavy metals, salts, and most other chemicals.

(Continued on page 27)

(Continued from page 26)

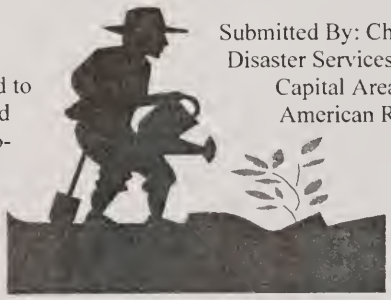
Boiling is the safest method of purifying water. Bring water to a rolling boil for 3-5 minutes, keeping in mind that some water will evaporate. Let the water cool before drinking. Boiled water will taste better if you put oxygen back into it by pouring the water back and forth between two clean containers. This will also improve the taste of stored water.



Disinfecting involves using household liquid bleach to kill microorganisms. Use only regular household liquid bleach that contains 5.25 percent sodium hypochlorite. Do not use scented bleaches, color-safe bleaches or bleaches with added cleaners. Add 16 drops of bleach per gallon of water, stir and let stand for 30 minutes. If the water does not have a slight bleach odor, repeat the dosage and let stand another 15 minutes. Again, the only agent used to purify water should be household liquid bleach. Other chemicals, such as iodine or water treatment products sold in camping or surplus stores that do not contain 5.25 percent sodium hypochlorite as the only active ingredient, are not recommended and should not be used.

Distillation involves boiling water and them collecting the vapor that condenses back to water. The condensed vapor will not include salt and other impurities. To distill, fill a pot halfway with water. Tie a cup to the handle on the pot's lid so that the cup will hang right-side-up when the lid is upside-down (make sure the cup is not dangling into the water) and boil the water for 20 minutes. The water that drips from the lid into the cup is distilled.

If supplies run low, never ration water. Drink the amount you need today, and try to find more for tomorrow. You can minimize the amount of water your body needs by reducing activity and staying cool.



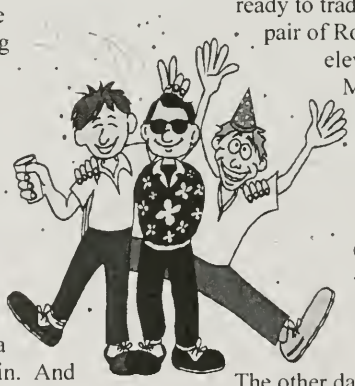
Submitted By: Chris Floyd
Disaster Services Director
Capital Area Chapter
American Red Cross

The School Disaster Preparedness Resource Committee has developed an All-Hazards Procedures Checklist. This will provide basic guidance in assisting schools with their all-hazard plan. This checklist will be taken to the printers in July and will be ready for distribution this fall. If you have any questions, please contact Monique Lay at ☎(406) 841-3963 or email mlay@state.mt.us.

Seize the Moment

I have a friend who lives by a three-word philosophy: ***Seize the Moment***. Just possibly, she may be the wisest woman on this planet. Too many people put off something that brings them joy just because they haven't thought about it, don't have it on their schedule, didn't know it was coming or are too rigid to depart from their routine.

I got to thinking one day about all those women on the Titanic who passed up dessert at dinner that fateful night in an effort to cut back. From then on, I've tried to be a little more flexible. How many women out there will eat at home because their husband didn't suggest going out to dinner until after something had been thawed? Does the word refrigeration" mean nothing to you? How often have your kids dropped in to talk and sat in silence while you watched Jeopardy! on television? I cannot count the times I called my sister and said, "How about going to lunch in a half hour?" She would gasp and stammer, "I can't." "I have clothes on the line.... My hair is dirty.... I wish I had known yesterday..... I had a late breakfast. .... It looks like rain. And my personal favorite: -"It's Monday". She died a few years ago. We never did have lunch together.



Because Americans cram so much into their lives, we tend to schedule our headaches. We live on a sparse diet of promises we make to ourselves when all the conditions are perfect: We'll go back and visit the grandparents when we get Stevie toilet-trained. We'll entertain - when we replace the living-room carpet. We'll go on a second honeymoon - when we get two more kids out of college. Life has a way of accelerating as we get older. The days get shorter, and the list of promises to ourselves gets longer. One morning, we awaken, and all we have to show for our lives is a litany of "I'm going to," "I plan on" and "Someday, when things are settled down a bit."

When anyone calls my 'seize the moment' friend, she is open to adventure and available for trips. She keeps an open mind on new ideas. Her enthusiasm for life is contagious. You talk with her for five minutes, and you're ready to trade your bad feet for a pair of Rollerblades and skip an elevator for a bungee cord. My lips have not touched ice cream in ten years. I love ice cream. It's just that I might as well apply it directly to my hips with a spatula and eliminate the digestive process.

The other day, I stopped the car and bought a triple-decker. If my car had hit an iceberg on the way home, I would have died happy. Now...go on and have a nice day. Do something you WANT to.....not something on your SHOULD DO list.

- Author Unknown

THANK YOU LTC RHOADS FOR A JOB WELL DONE

LTC William T. Rhoads, Dusty or Bill to those of in DES, retired recently from the U.S. Air Force after 28 years of commissioned service. He and his wife Carol were honored at a DES sponsored luncheon in Butte attended by local and State DES representatives, Assistant Adjutant General A.G. Tobel, Montana Power representatives, many from the local emergency management community, Air Force personnel from around the state, relatives and friends.

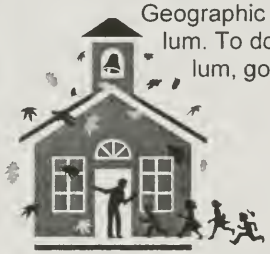
In 1987 LTC Rhoads was assigned a command control operations officer position for the Federal Emergency Management Agency and was first assigned to the Butte/Silver Bow Disaster and Emergency Services office. Later he was assigned to the State DES Office.

During his tenure in the Butte office LTC Rhoads developed the Butte/Silver Bow Earthquake brochure, was an active member of the drought committee, Disaster Preparedness Committee, and numerous other committees. Most recently he represented BSB on the X-33 program committee. He was a deputy for the office and served "on-call" whenever asked. He participated in many of the Emergency Management exercises. His opinions and suggestions were always readily accepted.

When Bill was assigned to State DES he became a familiar face behind the registration table at all state conferences He was a driving force behind the development of the partnership between DES and the Montana Power, especially in the area of dam safety. LTC Rhoads graduated in electrical engineering from Montana State University. He is a registered professional engineer at the Montana Power Company. He and his wife Carol has lived in Butte since 1977. They have two daughters, Sarah and Allison. Bill will be missed by all of us in DES although he has indicated he intends to stay involved at the local level. He recently became a Red Cross Board member and is still involved in many Butte volunteer organizations such as Exchange Club, Mining Museum, Arts Chateau, and his church. He has been a credit to the uniform he wore so proudly for so many years. We all will miss him.

Wilma Puich
DES Coordinator
Butte/Silver Bow County

Your class can win National Geographic products through a Reduce the Risk contest and a disaster sweepstakes. National Geographic has also developed a four-page disaster curriculum. To download the entry forms, information and curriculum, go to www.fema.gov/kids/natgeopdf.htm



Received from:
Pat McKelvey
Lewis & Clark County
Project Impact Manager

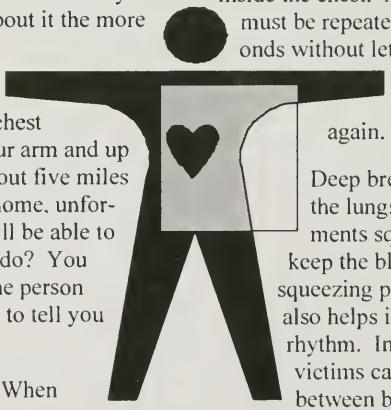
Let's say it's 6:17 p.m. and you're driving home (alone, of course) after an unusually hard day on the job. Not only was the work load extraordinarily heavy, you also had a disagreement with your boss, and no matter how hard you tried, he just wouldn't see your side of the situation. You are really upset and the more you think about it the more uptight you become.

All of a sudden you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to radiate out into your arm and up into your jaw. You are only about five miles from the hospital nearest your home, unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far. What can you do? You have been trained in CPR but the person that taught the course neglected to tell you how to perform it on yourself.

How to Survive a Heart Attack When Alone:

Many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack—what can you do? Without help a person whose heart stops beating properly begins to feel faint and has about ten seconds left before losing consciousness. However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously.

A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest. A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.

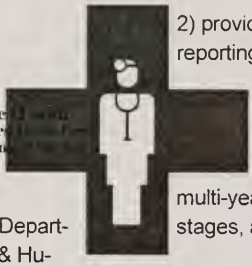


Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to a phone and, between breaths, call for help. You'll be giving yourself CPR with this technique.

Submitted by:
Dan McGowan
Planning Bureau Chief

Welcome

The Department of Public Health and Human Services Hires Public Health Disaster Co

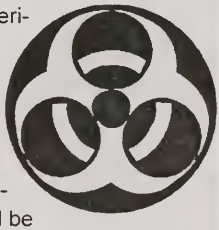


In March, The Montana Department of Public Health & Human Services hired Lorrie A. Leighton-Boster, M.S.,R.N.,N.R.E.M.T. as Public Health Disaster Coordinator. The new position is designed to facilitate the role of DPHHS meeting and addressing the Disaster/Bio-terrorism potential in Montana. Early emphasis will be on working with local health departments, the Health Alert Network Coordinator, the DPPHS Distance Learning Coordinator, the Public Health Improvement Task Force and DES to:

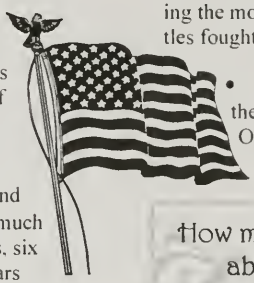
1) implement the Health Alert Network – a system to electronically connect Public Health Departments and allow secure e-mail communication, broadcast fax and secure Internet access;
2) develop internal and external disaster plans and standard operating procedures for particular emergent situations;
3) identify workforce training needs; and
4) provide satellite downlinks at 22 National Guard distance learning classrooms to expand distance learning and tele-health opportunities across the state.

The new coordinator will be working closely with the State Epidemiologist to:
1) provide expanded regional disease surveillance by coordinating data with Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana, adding animal surveillance and expanding the network of reporting sources;
2) providing a region wide toll free phone reporting system for health professionals; and
3) providing training to state and local public health workforce in the area of Bio-terrorism. This multi-year project will be implemented in stages, as funding is available.

Mrs. Leighton-Boster received her nursing degree from Montana State University and master's degree from Eastern Montana College (now MSU Billings). She has work as a RN for many years and has been an EMT for 18 years. She grew up in Livingston and has worked in Montana at the Yellowstone City-County Health Department and Deaconess Medical Center of Billings. She has spent the last 12 years working in Washington State at Samaritan Hospital and the Moses Lake Clinic. During that time she also served as the Coordinator for the regional Critical Incident Stress Management Team. Lorrie says she is very glad to be back in Montana, "although Washington is nice, there's no place like Montana"! Lorrie is hopeful that her experience in nursing, EMS, Critical Incident Stress Management, ski patrol, search and rescue and recently in Bio-terrorism preparedness and response will be helpful as we all work together to prepare for a variety of potential disaster situations. Lorrie can be contacted at (406) 444-1305 or e-mail – lleighton-boster@state.mt.us.



Just in case you ever need to know (you make it on stage with Regis or Jay Leno stops you on the street), here is a little bit of American trivia for you. Celebrate a safe and happy Independence Day.



- The American Flag has 50 stars and 13 stripes, right? But there is so much more. There are seven red stripes, six white stripes, and nine rows of stars which alternate from six stars to five stars.

- In which state would you find theses towns? Big Food, Turkey, Noodle, Notrees, Punkin Center, Blanket, Shiner, and Beeville. Give up? TEXAS!!

- The very first ferris wheel was 250 feet high and was built for the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago. When filled, it carried 2160 people! In comparison, a typical ferris wheel today is between 40 to 60 feet tall.

- The United States has five territories. Can you name them?

  *Puerto Rico, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and Virgin Islands (St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John).

- Alaska has the state with the fewest counties. How many? None.

- How many state names have one syllable? Just one, Maine.

- A state actually passed a resolution to assure its name would be pronounced correctly. Do you know which one? Arkansas.

- Which state has a well pumping oil from the ground under the state capitol building? Oklahoma.

- Which state hosts the record for having the most Revolutionary War battles fought? South Carolina.

- How many states named themselves after a president? Only one, Washington.

How much do you know about America?

- The United States has about 3,600,000 square miles of land and on it nearly 3,600,00 miles of highway.

- Which U.S. President said this?

"A chicken in every pot" ..... Herbert Hoover
"The New Frontier" ..... John F. Kennedy
"Don't swap horses" ..... Abraham Lincoln
"The buck stops here" ..... Harry Truman
"Let the people rule" ..... Andrew Jackson
"Tippecanoe and Tyler, too" ..... William H. Harrison

- Wall Street got its name in 1644 when New York City built a wall around lower Manhattan to protect cattle from marauders.

The Constitution:

- Thomas Jefferson was not at the Constitutional Convention as may be expected, he was in France at the time.

- Which state ratified the Constitution first and states it on their license plates? Delaware.

- Pennsylvania had the most signers of the Constitution.

- New York had only one signer of the Constitution.

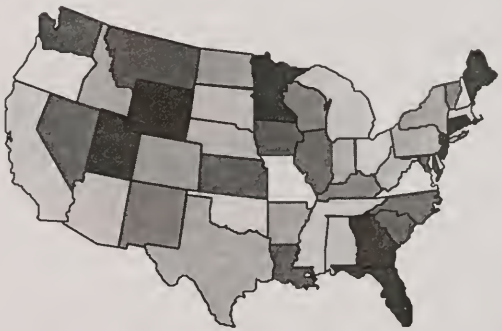
Be Sensitive

Individuals with disabilities or special needs are sometimes part of a group setting or live independently on their own. The Governor's Council on Disability asks that you please remember to consider those with special needs during your pre-planning efforts, especially identifying where those that live independently reside so they too can be accommodated.

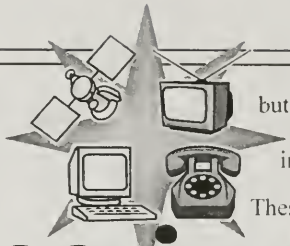
Submitted by:
Dan McGowan
Planning Bureau Chief

(Continued from page 32)

- Woodrow Wilson raised $100,000 for the Red Cross during World War I by selling the wool of White House sheep. At the beginning of the war, the sheep were purchased to replace the gardeners who were drafted by the Army.
- The highest point in North America is Mt. McKinley.
- Here is a tough one. In which state did women first win the right to vote? Did you say WYOMING!!
- Ruts made by pioneer wagons still exist in this state. Nebraska.
- Think—another tough one! Where is the geographic center of North America? Would you believe Rugby, North Dakota? Believe it!
- This state has more lakes than any other. Did you guess Florida? That's right.
- Lead, South Dakota has the world's oldest operating gold mine there.
- Imagine this. The only diamond mine in North America is in which state? Arkansas! Who knew?



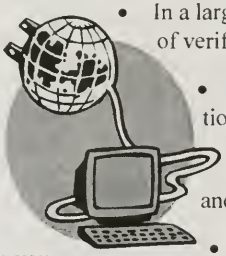
Social Engineering



You receive an email message that reads: Hi, my name is Ted Dehanson and I am the system administrator here at state.mt.us. We recently had a security break-in and are re-assigning passwords to users. We would highly recommend that you change your password as soon as possible to the randomly chosen password abc123.

Would you change your password? You get a sweepstakes entry in the mail and it asks for your social security number and a password for verification when you win the million dollars. Do you fill it out and send it in using the same password that you use for logging into your computer at work?

Someone calls you on the phone at work and tells you that they are working on the computer system with your network administrator. They need you to log out and log back into the network telling them every keystroke you type including your loginID and password. Do you tell them?



A woman calls the help desk claiming she forgot her password. There are 500 employees for whom you are responsible for maintaining loginIDs and passwords. The woman's voice sounds a little different, but she says she has a cold. Do you change her password and give it to her?

You receive a patch for one of your software applications on a diskette in the mail. Normally you receive patches via other means, but this comes with a letter on "official" stationery. Do you install the patch?

These are some of the techniques that computer hackers use to penetrate or break in to computer systems. This is known as social engineering. The Hacker's Jargon Dictionary says that social engineering is "a term used to describe cracking techniques that rely on weaknesses in wetware (people) rather than software; the aim is to trick people into revealing passwords or other information that compromises a target system's security."

Computer users should follow these basic rules to avoid being "socially engineered".

- Never give your password to **anyone.**
- Never reveal any loginID information to someone you do not know.
- Question what you read in email if it is not from a known, trusted source.
- In a large organization, have some type of verification for password changes.
- Never install patches to applications in a production environment first. Always test any updates for software to ensure their validity and stability.
- Report any suspicious questions that strangers ask to the Network Security Officer.

Taken from ISD News & Views, March 2000
By: Lynne Pizzini, Network Security Officer

New Emergency Management Technology Certification

Are you an emergency manager who uses technology? Or are you a technical expert working in emergency management? If so, SALEMDUG's new professional certification, Certified Technologist in Emergency Management (CTEM), is just the thing to document your credentials.

CTEM Certification is based on accumulating 600 points in four categories:

- Experience—you can accumulate up to 200 points for years of service, certifications, training, conferences, publications, memberships, and emergency operations.
- Examination—a 100 question test on general emergency management knowledge. Each correctly answered question contributes two points toward the 600.
- Technology Application—you can earn up to 200 points for either vendor training or certification in a particular technology or software or for submission of a project that shows you can apply technology to a specific emergency management need.
- Technology Implementation—up to 200 points are awarded for either documentation of implementation of a technology project or for completing a written scenario.

The application packet costs $25, and there is an additional $50 certification fee for SALEMDUG members or $100 for nonmembers. To obtain an application packet, please mail a check made out to SALEMDUG in the amount of $25 to Walter Green, P.O. Box 799, Glen Allen, VA 23060.

Walter G. Green III, Ph.D., CEM
SALEMDUG Newsletter Winter 2000
Submitted by: Bill Thomas
DES District I Representative

PDS *Accolades*

Congratulations to Martha Smith, Sanders County and Darrell Stafford, Liberty/Toole County for completion of their Professional Development Series (PDS) courses. PDS courses are: Principles of Emergency Management (formerly Introduction to Emergency Management), Emergency Planning, Exercise Design, Leadership and Influence, Decision Making and Problem Solving, Effective Communications, and Developing Volunteer Resources (can also be taken via Independent Study). Completion of these courses demonstrates a commitment to standards of excellence in Emergency Management and contributes to the strength and competence of our Montana Emergency Management system.

State of Montana

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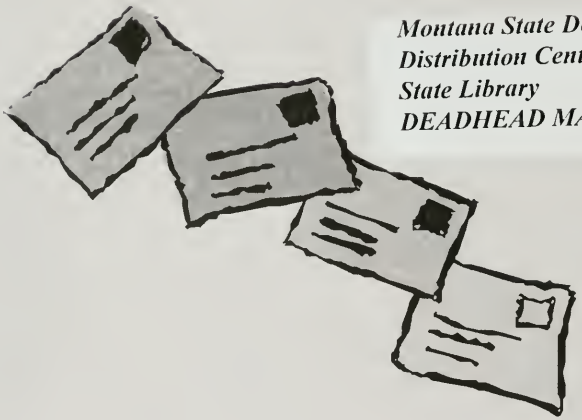

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Articles or questions regarding articles may be addressed to:

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